

#12  
9/23/09

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: ) Date: September 23, 2009  
Martin STING et al.  
Serial No.: 09/701,961 ) Attorney Docket No.: F-300  
Filed: February 20, 2001 ) Group Art Unit: 3651  
Confirmation No.: 9838 ) Examiner: DILLON, Jr., J. A.  
Title: MAIL-PROCESSING MACHINE

**REQUEST TO WITHDRAW ERRONEOUS ABANDONMENT**

Sir:

Subsequent to a Notice of Allowance dated December 11 2001, Applicants filed a timely RCE with an Amendment and an IDS on March 11, 2002. (Attached). A return postcard dated March 20, 2002, acknowledging receipt of the RCE, Amendment and IDS at the USPTO on was received by Pitney Bowes. (Attached). Subsequent to that postcard Applicants have not received any correspondence in connection with the Application. Applicants have now noticed that the PAIR system indicates that the application became abandoned. No Notice of Abandonment was received at the Assignee. In view of the timely filed RCE, the application should not have become abandoned, and it is requested that such erroneous abandonment be withdrawn so that the RCE and accompanying IDS can be considered.

Respectfully submitted,

/Michael J. Cummings/  
Michael J. Cummings  
Reg. No. 46,650  
Attorney of Record  
Telephone (203) 924-3934

PITNEY BOWES INC.  
Intellectual Property and  
Technology Law Department  
35 Waterview Drive  
Shelton, CT 06484-8000

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**  
PITNEY BOWES

F-300  
MJC:d  
3/11/02

Sir:

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the following:

APR 01 2002  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY &  
TECHNOLOGY LAW DEPT.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE)/Information Disclosure  
Statement/Amendment in Patent Application Titled: **CHARGING**  
APPARATUS, Inventor: Sting, et al  
S.N.: 09/701,961, Filed: December 5, 2000



by placing your receiving date stamp hereon and mailing.  
Thank you

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/701,961
Filing Date	December 5, 2000
First Named Inventor	Sting, et al.
Art Unit	3651
Examiner Name	Not Allocated
Attorney Docket Number	F-300

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

## 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

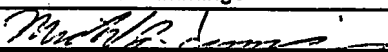
## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 16-1885
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

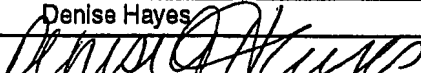
**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Michael J. Cummings	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,650
Signature		Date	March 11, 2002

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Denise Hayes	Date	March 11, 2002
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:	) Attorney Docket No.: F-300
Martin Sting, et al.	) Group Art Unit: 3651
Serial No.: 09/400,426	) Examiner: J. Dillon Jr.
Filed: September 21, 1999	) Date: March 11, 2002
Title: CHARGING APPARATUS	

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

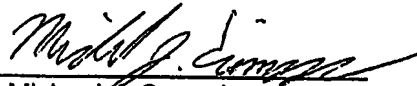
This preliminary amendment is filed to provide remarks in support of the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed concurrently herewith.

**REMARKS**

It was noted that in the "Reasons for Allowance" stated by the Examiner that certain features were considered to be missing from the prior art references of record. Applicants request that the Examiner further consider the present application in view of those "Reasons for Allowance" and to consider the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith.

If the Examiner should have any questions, he is kindly urged to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Cummings

Reg. No. 46,650

Attorney for Applicants

Telephone (203) 924-3934

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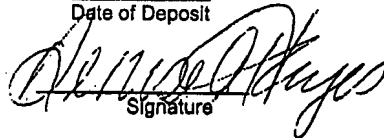
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on March 11, 2002  
Date of Deposit

Denise Hayes  
Name of Rep.

  
Signature

March 11, 2002  
Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: )  
Sting, et al. ) Attorney Docket No.: F-300  
Serial No.: 09/701,961 ) Group Art Unit: 3651  
Filed: December 5, 2000 ) Date: March 11, 2002  
For: CHARGING APPARATUS

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Sir:**

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b) exists.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with the following provisions, as identified below with marked boxes, available under 37 CFR § 1.97:

1. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(b) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to one of the following: (i) within 3 months of the filing date of this application (other than a CPA); (ii) within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; (iii) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (iv) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

2. ☒ 37 CFR §1.97(c) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by the statement or fee as identified below:

2.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

2.2 ☒ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

OR

2.3 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

**\*\* Provisional Fee Authorization.** If Box 2.1 or Box 2.2 is marked above and a final action under § 1.113 has in fact been mailed before the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) as if Box 2.3 had been marked.

OR

3. ☐ 37 CFR §1.97(d) - This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and it is accompanied by the statement and fee as identified below:

3.1.1 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - see below.

OR

3.1.2 ☐ Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - see below.

AND

3.2 ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1) - Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Specified Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2) - No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of each of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 16-1885.

A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed for use in charging the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Cummings  
Reg. No. 46,650  
Attorney of Record  
Telephone (203) 924-3934

PITNEY BOWES INC.  
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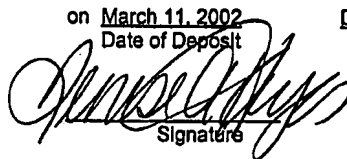
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on March 11, 2002  
Date of Deposit

Denise Hayes  
Name of Rep.

  
Signature

March 11, 2002  
Date

Plus attachments: Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  
One copy of each of the references



FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)				Atty. Docket Number F-300		Serial No. 09/701,961	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Applicant Sting, et al.			
				Filing Date December 5, 2000		Group 3651	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	3170572	2/23/65	LL Harison			
	AB	5052542	10/1/91	A.W. Jestetten	198	372	
	AC	6189702	2/20/01	H. Bonnet	209	651	
	AD	4416450	11/22/83	H. vanWijngaarden	271	303	
	AE	5457935	10/17/95	D. P. Kope	53	258	
	AF	4720960	1/26/88	R.J. Green	53	447	
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							